

11: Inmate LE

01

02 (Interview on the wing).

03 (I went to the wing at 4.30 as advised by the officers as the good time.

When I came in I saw L was having dinner with other 3, one who immediately left. I approached with the intention of telling him that I will come back at another time, but they encouraged me to stay and ask the questions so carried on.)

04 E- Sorry to interrupt guys. Hi L, officers told me you are happy to be interviewed about Makeright, but maybe I can come another time?

05 L- No, no don't worry please sit down.

06 E- You sure...? I mean maybe when you are on your own..?

07 L- No, no! It's my uncle miss, no problems!

08 Uncle - You kidding? I did his nappies! I am his uncle!

09 E - Hi, I'm Erika ... nice to meet you.

10 L - Please sit down miss.

11 E- Ok thanks sorry to interrupt your dinner...

12 (explained about the research, read and signed paperwork)

13 E -Well, so what did you think of the project?

14 L - Yeah... yeah... therapeutic, soothing , very fun miss, de-stressed. Good to know is for a good cause, knowing is for cancer.

15 U- Close to your heart ain't it?

16 L- Yeah yeah.. the good cause makes you put some extra little bit, that extra mile ain't it?

17 E- What is that extra mile then?

18 L- Yeah, miss you know... if you get bored or what not you say hey is for cancer may save a life out of it or something.

19 E- A yes, yes. (smile) Anything else...?

21 L- Interesting, first time was better because those lot come what then and what not.

22 1st one more fun, what we were 8 /10 people, 2nd 4 or 5 or something. 10 is good because everyone has their ideas brainstorming and what not. The more people the more Interactive kind of thing ain't it?

23 Good teachers, good facilitators. You guys are laid back but if we take the piss then you go comon back to work kind of thing is good you run the class I wouldn't change that.

24 Mmmm... tea break, good radio , little biscuits and thattttt.... (laughs)

25 L- Miss, just want to eat the fish really, is not that good anyways, (U and L laugh) you want some cake miss?

26 E- Oh thanks, no thank you.

27 L- 4/5 weeks you just getting into it... 8/10 weeks, at least 8 weeks, maybe 10 everyone is getting good and then oh you need to go.

28 E- Anything else to change?

29 L- You need more materials, it stopped me from doing what I wanted to do.

30 E- More materials - such as...?

31 L- Say the carabinas and that I needed remember? I couldn't have done it... all equipment. Remember we went in the cupboard and weren't enough fabric.

32 U- You learned?

33 L- Hell yeah, I know have to make laptops mate!!!

34 U- You can show your daughter how to use the machine and that...

35 E- What's that..?

36 L- I have a daughter ain't it ... I can show her make stuff and that...

37 And I can do my own alterations and that... (laughs) Like that time ain't it, I brought some trousers and fuck them up.. remember miss? (laughs)



38 Good fun.

39 U- He you can't just say good fun. You have to say it was a learning curve and all that... (smiling)

40 E- Is good, is good fun! (smile)

41 L- Yes, I learned. I like Lorraine, she is a Professor and that, so you take what she says seriously, is not any bloke from the street ain't it?

42 You feel good about yourself. You get a bit praised, everyone likes to be praised, is good feeling.

43 They come every week show your progress. You feel worthwhile... next week you show the prototype good.

44 (guys pass by with an offensive face towards me)

45 L- Miss you are getting all brave and that he... in the wings... (smiles)

46 (both laugh)

47 E- So what about you personally?

48 L- Nahhhh. Well I've gotten well haven't I? Easy to talk to, we have a joke and that when there is a joke, fun and enjoyable. Fun work, good atmosphere ...

49 E- How was at the beginning, bit about the persona and that?

50 L- Bit frustrating yes, you know. I did not know what was all about. When I started making then I realized why we did all that. I understood it.

51 E- Guys, you familiar with empathy?

52 U- Yes, yes! Understanding others and that, in other's shoes.

53 E- Would you guys say you are empathic?

54 U- Yes, yes I think I am. I can understand others.

55 E- L, what do you think - does it relate to this work?

56 L- Yes, yes you need to do it in the course in the role play because it makes perfect sense. You need to know how to not get nicked, ain't it? You need to put yourself in it. Act it out designed what... for that purpose that bus stop and that.

57 E- Anything else...?

58 L- Miss, is the best course in Thameside.

59 E- What else is there in Thameside, that you've done?

60 L- Drug and alcohol.

61 U- TSP and that...

62 L- SCAR... yes those.

63 E- So how is this different from those? I don't know what those are actually.

64 U- Well it seems to me your course is all about you ain't it? On the others you need to think how they want you to think. Say what they want you to say (strong tone). Whereas your course is about your expression. It sounds like lets you get it out. For example, miss they would ask you if you saw a bag full of money would you report it to the police? Would you, miss? What would you say?

65 E- Not for me to answer...


66 U- Would you though, miss? I mean even my good mum would take that bag, or for example there is a man who committed a crime 20 years ago. Now he rebuilt his life, he has kids and that, a job, he is married, would you report him? I mean what good is gonna do that? It is gonna bring him back to ground(stage?) zero ain't it?


67 E- So what happens if you answer no?




68 U- (laughs) You get failed. (both laugh)


69 L- This treats you like an adult ain't it? We are adults ain't we? (strong tone). If we are children then children if we adults adults ain't it? If you are angry you make it angry, if you are happy you make your bag happy.

70 U- Yeah yeah that's nice... You make it angry or happy... (smiles). Actually I want to do it, can I?

 B- believe


 B- believe



 I- Identity
 Nahhhh. Well I've gotten...
 W-wellbeing

 U-uncertainty

 EMPATHY

 L-learning

 I- Identity

 I can do something myself...
 I- Identity

71 E- Well, I can take your name, then I would send it through. They will do security checks and hopefully...

72 U- Oh, yeah yeah if I have been cleared to working in the kitchen and all I think.

73 E- You working in the kitchen now?

74 U- No, no I am in the waiting list that's why.

75 E- Let me take your details and will send them through.

76 L- You are not being forced to do it you do it yourself. Used to enjoy coming to the classes. When I come I thought - oh, no sewing again, I actually wanted to leave you remember? Then they said come on try for a bit.

77 E- So you said best course at Thameside? What about other prisons, do you know if anything similar or other good projects?

78 U- Miss, the only place I know if Pentonville a similar thing.

79 E- What was at Pentonville?

80 U- Charity would bring clothes and they cut it up makes stuff out of it ain't it.

81 E- Is that recent?

82 U- Maybe 2 years ago.. don't know if still goes on.

83 E- Do you remember the name?

84 U- Textiles ain't it. Workshops 3 wasn't it? (asks L). Yes, I think.

85 E- So, you said - it lets you express yourself. What else is there to do though - painting, writing... etc? What about that?

86 L - Yeah, but you know because is education people don't wanna go ain't it?

87 E- Why - because of pay?

88 L- Yeah yeah don't got the facilities and that... (?)

89 (Officers start shouting for everyone to go back to the cells. Uncle says goodbye and leaves the table and I was going to leave but L tells me:

L- Miss I am alright is not yet my cell time no worries, any more questions?

90 E- Well, I hope you don't mind me asking L, since you went out and that, did you feel it made any difference out there?

91 L- Well don't know really... I didn't have time to test it... I didn't go home, I was in a hostel, you have to do stuff for probation you know you have to go here and there all the time for employment and that.. so I don't know. But in

92 April will be different when I am free. I can go back home to my mum and

93 that...



C-collaboration~



I- Identity



L-learning



H-hope